.ATENT COOPERATION TRE, Y

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE

EYLES, Christopher, Thomas W.P. Thomason & Co.

| (PCT Rule 92bis.1 and Administrative Instructions, Section 422) | Celcon House 289-293 High Holborn London WC1V 7HU ROYAUME-UNI | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 28 August 2001 (28.08.01) | | | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference CTE/PL62889WO | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION | | |
| International application No. PCT/GB00/00363 | International filing date (day/month/year) 07 February 2000 (07.02.00) | | |
| The following indications appeared on record concerning: The applicant the inventor | the agent the common representative | | |
| Name and Address | State of Nationality State of Residence GB GB | | |
| H.B. FULLER COATINGS LTD. 95 Aston Church Road Nechells Birmingham B7 7QR | Telephone No. | | |
| United Kingdom | Facsimile No. | | |
| | Teleprinter No. | | |
| The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the X the person the name the add | | | |
| Name and Address | State of Nationality State of Residence | | |
| | Telephone No. | | |
| | Facsimile No. | | |
| | Teleprinter No. | | |
| Further observations, if necessary: Deletion of applicant for all designated States ex Security Composites Ltd., which has become so | ccept US due to assignment of rights to le applicant. | | |
| 4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: | · · | | |
| X the receiving Office | the designated Offices concerned | | |
| the International Searching Authority the International Preliminary Examining Authority | X the elected Offices concerned other: | | |
| The International Bureau of WIPO | Authorized officer | | |
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| Especimile No : (41, 22) 740 14 25 | Telephone No : (41-22) 338 83 38 | | |

Form PCT/IB/306 (March 1994)

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PA. _NT COOPERATION TREAT.

| From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU | | |
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| PCT | To: | |
| NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION (PCT Rule 61.2) | Assistant Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Box PCT Washington, D.C.20231 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE | |
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 18 October 2000 (18.10.00) | in its capacity as elected Office | |
| International application No. PCT/GB00/00363 | Applicant's or agent's file reference CTE/PL62889WO | |
| International filing date (day/month/year) 07 February 2000 (07.02.00) | Priority date (day/month/year) 08 February 1999 (08.02.99) | |
| Applicant DODD, Keith, Herbert et al | | |
| The designated Office is hereby notified of its election ma X in the demand filed with the International Prelimina 08 Septembe in a notice effecting later election filed with the Inte | er 2000 (08.09.00) | |
| 2. The election X was was not was not made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority Rule 32.2(b). | y date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under | |
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| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Authorized officer Pascal Piriou | |

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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8 February 1999 (08.02.99)

GB

(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): FULLER COATINGS LTD. [GB/GB]; 95 Aston Church Road, Nechells, Birmingham B7 7QR (GB). SECURITY COMPOSITES LIMITED [GB/GB]; The Glade, Redhill, Hookagate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY5 8BP (GB).

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- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DODD, Keith, Herbert [GB/GB]; 5 Parson's Drive, Richmond Park, Gnosall, Staffordshire ST20 OQS (GB). WELTON, Nicholas, Jason [GB/GB]; 19 Augusta Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6LA (GB). PRICE, Christopher, Barry [GB/GB], The Glade, Redhill, Hookagate, Shrewsbury SY5 8BP (GB).
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(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: HEAT TRANSFER ELEMENT

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to a heat transfer element made of a polymer matrix having a fibrous material interspersed therein, said heat transfer element comprising a fluoropolymer at least on an outer surface thereof, the interspersion of the fibrous material within the polymer matrix providing rigidity to the heat transfer element, a thermally conductive material being distributed within the heat transfer element. Such a heat transfer element can be used in the manufacture of radiant panels for power generating stations or can be formed as a pipe for similar use. The heat transfer element may comprise a polymer sheet having a fibrous material distributed therein providing structural strength and a fluoropolymer at least on an outer surface of the element which protects the element from physical and chemical corrosion whilst providing anti-fouling properties and good flow characteristics to the element. A thermally conductive material is distributed within the element to provide the necessary heat transfer characteristics.

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| | | 2.0 | 2100114 | 30 | Singapore | | |

Int. Itional Application No PCT/GB 00/00363

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 CO8K7/02 F28F F28F19/04 F28F21/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C08K F28F Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category 5 Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1-3,15, vol. 012, no. 471 (M-773). 16,21,26 9 December 1988 (1988-12-09) & JP 63 194195 A (JUNKOSHA CO LTD), 11 August 1988 (1988-08-11) abstract χ EP 0 203 213 A (SIGRI GMBH) 1,2,15, 3 December 1986 (1986-12-03) 16,21, 23,26-28 cited in the application claims 1,3,6,7 -/--X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but in the art. later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 14 June 2000 21/06/2000 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Russell, G

Inte...ational Application No PCT/GB 00/00363

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| | ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
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| | page 2, line 11 - line 29 claims 5,6 | | |
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| X | US 4 911 227 A (SAITO NAOHIDE ET AL) 27 March 1990 (1990-03-27) | | 1,2,7,8, 11,15, 16, 18-21, |
| | claims 1,9,12 | | 27,28 |
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| Ρ,Χ | WO 99 35458 A (H B FULLER COATINGS LTD; WELTON NICHOLAS JASON (GB); DODD KEITH HE) 15 July 1999 (1999-07-15) the whole document | | 1-28 |
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)



Information on patent family members

Int. .tional Application No PCT/GB 00/00363

| | | | | db 00/00303 |
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| Patent documen cited in search rep | ort | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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CLAIMS:

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WO 00/47664

- 1. A heat transfer element comprising a polymer matrix having a fibrous material interspersed therein, said heat transfer element comprising a fluoropolymer at least on an outer surface thereof, the interspersion of the fibrous material within the polymer matrix providing rigidity to the heat transfer element, a thermally conductive material being distributed within the heat transfer element.
- 2. A heat transfer element according to claim 1, in the form of a sheet.
- 3. A heat transfer element according to claim 1, in the form of a tube.
 - 4. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 3, in which the fibrous material comprises metal fibres.
 - 5. A heat transfer element according to claim 4, in which the metal fibres comprise iron, steel, or stainless steel fibres.
 - 6. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 5, in which the polymer matrix further comprises particles of metal.
- 7. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 6, in which the fibrous material comprises glass fibres.
 - 8. A heat transfer element according to claim 7, in which the glass fibres comprise chemically resistant glass fibres.
 - 9. A heat transfer element according to claim 7 or claim
- 8, in which the fibrous material comprises a mixture of glass fibres and fibres of a plastics material.
 - 10. A heat transfer element according to claim 9, in which the plastics material comprises a material selected from polypropylene and fluoropolymers.
- 30 11. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims

- 1 to 10, in which the fibrous material comprises continuous fibres.
- 12. A heat transfer element according to claim 11, in which the fibrous material comprises rovings plaited to form continuous tubes, formed into tapes, or woven into panels.
- 5 13. A heat transfer element according to claim 12, in which the rovings are precoated with a plastics material.
 - 14. A heat transfer element according to claim 12 or claim 13, in which the fibrous material comprises a continuous tube comprising loosely commingled rovings, wherein the individual rovings extend at an angle of about 10° to about 15° to the tube axis.
 - 15. A heat transfer element which comprises:

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a polymer sheet having a fibrous material interspersed therein and comprising a fluoropolymer at least on an outer surface of the sheet, the interspersion of the fibrous material within the sheet providing rigidity to the element; and

a thermally conductive material distributed within the heat transfer element.

- 16. A heat transfer element according to claim 15, wherein the fibrous material is of a thermally conductive material such that the distribution of thermally conductive material within the heat transfer element is provided, in whole or in part, by the fibrous material.
- 25 17. A heat transfer element according to claim 16, wherein the fibrous material is of stainless steel.
 - 18. A heat transfer element according to claim 16, wherein the fibrous material is fibre glass.
- 19. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims10. 10. 10. Wherein an intermediate layer of a plastics material

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is provided underneath the outer fluoropolymer surface of the element.

- 20. A heat transfer element according to claim 19, wherein the plastics material comprises an acrylic polymer.
- 21. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 20, wherein the thermally conductive material comprises a particulate or filamented material.
- 22. A heat transfer element according to claim 21, wherein the particulate or filamented material is a metal.
- 23. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 22, wherein the fluoropolymer comprises PVDF.
- 24. A heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 23, wherein the fluoropolymer is mixed with another thermoplastic polymer.
- 25. A heat transfer element according to claim 24, wherein the other thermoplastic polymer is an acrylic polymer.
- 26. A tubular heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 25, formed by extruding a mixture of fluoropolymer, fibrous material and, where necessary, particulate or filamented thermally conductive material.
- 27. A process for the production of a heat transfer element according to any one of claims 1 to 25 comprising providing a fibrous base portion, and forming by compression moulding or lamination over the surface of the base portion a coating of a fluoropolymer.
- 28. A process according to claim 27, further including the step of distributing a thermally conductive material within the element.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

14

| Applicant's or agent's file reference | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Notification of Transmittal of International | |
|---|---|---|--|
| CTE/PL62889WO | TONTONTIEN ACTION | Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. | International filing date (day/month) | | |
| PCT/GB00/00363 | 07/02/2000 | 08/02/1999 | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or nat C08K7/02 | ional classification and IPC | | |
| Applicant | | | |
| H.B. FULLER COATINGS LTD. et al | | | |
| This international preliminary examinand is transmitted to the applicant and th | nation report has been prepared ccording to Article 36. | by this International Preliminary Examining Authority | |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of | 5 sheets, including this cover sh | eet. | |
| been amended and are the basi | is for this report and/or sheets co 7 of the Administrative Instructio | e description, claims and/or drawings which have ontaining rectifications made before this Authority ns under the PCT). | |
| These annexes consist of a total of t | sneets. | • | |
| | | | |
| 3. This report contains indications relat | ing to the following items: | • | |
| I ⊠ Basis of the report | | | |
| II Priority | | | |
| _ | | entive step and industrial applicability | |
| IV Lack of unity of invention | | | |
| V ⊠ Reasoned statement un- citations and explanation | der Article 35(2) with regard to no ns suporting such statement | ovelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; | |
| VI Certain documents cited | d | | |
| VII 🛛 Certain defects in the int | ternational application | | |
| VIII Certain observations on | the international application | | |
| | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand | Date of co | empletion of this report | |
| 08/09/2000 | 29.05.200 |)1 | |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority: European Patent Office | Authorized | d officer | |

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/00363

| I. Basis of | f the report |
|-------------|--------------|
|-------------|--------------|

| 1. | the and | With regard to the elements of the international application (<i>Replacement sheets which have been furnished to</i> the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)): Description, pages: | | | | | | |
|----|-------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| | 1-1 | 4 | as originally file | d | | | | |
| | Cla | ims, No.: | | | | | | |
| | 1-1 | 8,20-22 | as received on | | 12/03/2001 | with letter of | 07/03/2001 | |
| 2. | lang | guage in which the i | nternational app | lication was file | ed, unless othe | erwise indicated | | the |
| | The | ese elements were a | available or furnis | shed to this Au | thority in the fo | ollowing languag | e: , which is: | |
| | | the language of a t | translation furnis | hed for the pur | rposes of the i | nternational sear | ch (under Rule 23.1(b)) | |
| | | the language of pu | blication of the i | nternational ap | plication (unde | er Rule 48.3(b)). | | |
| | | the language of a t 55.2 and/or 55.3). | ranslation furnis | hed for the pur | rposes of inter | national prelimin | ary examination (under | Rule |
| 3. | | n regard to any nuc rnational preliminan | | | | | ational application, the sting: | |
| | | contained in the int | ternational applic | cation in writter | n form. | | | • |
| | | filed together with t | the international | application in o | computer read | able form. | | |
| | | furnished subseque | ently to this Auth | ority in written | form. | | | |
| | | furnished subseque | ently to this Auth | ority in compu | ter readable fo | orm. | | |
| | | The statement that the international ap | | | | e listing does not | go beyond the disclosu | re in |
| | | The statement that listing has been fur | | recorded in co | mputer readab | ole form is identio | cal to the written sequen | ce |
| ١. | The | amendments have | resulted in the c | ancellation of: | | | | |
| | | the description, | pages: | | | | | |
| | \boxtimes | the claims, | Nos.: | 19,23-28 | | | | |
| | | the drawings, | sheets: | | · | | | |
| ō. | | This report has bee | en established as eyond the disclo | s if (some of) th sure as filed (F | ne amendmen Rule 70.2(c)): | ts had not been | made, since they have b | een |

EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

Paragraph V:

1. Relevant documents:

D6 US-A-5 036 903

D7 US-A-4 911 227

D8 US-A-5 409 777

2. D6 relates to a heat recovery method and heat-exchanger having corrosion resistant tubes and tube sheets. One aspect is a corrosion-protection coating system for the side apertured tube sheets through which the graphite tubes of the heat-exchanger penetrate. The coating system comprises an inner silicon-carbide impregnated expoxidized novolak coating adherently affixed to the tube sheet and over which is a fiber-reinforced fluoroplastic layer (col 2, I 17-23; claim 1). The fiber-reinforcement comprises glass fiber, and the fluoroplastic comprises an elastomer derived from a combination of vinylidene and hexafluoropropylene (col 4, I 29-60; claims 8, 10).

D7 discloses a heat-exchange element composed of a sheet material which comprises glass fiber, an inorganic filler, and a binder (claim 1). This sheet may be coated with a coating material comprising an organic binder such as an acrylic resin (col 4, I 34-37).

The element further comprises a fluorine coating layer formed on the surface thereof (Example 4; claim 9). The heat-exchange may be a one sheet material or a honeycomb structure formed by laminating a plurality of sheets (claim 12).

D8 deals with a laminate useful in a heat exchanger having at least two layers, said laminate comprising at least one layer of a polymer having more than one perfluorocyclobutane groups to be coated on a substrate, and at least one reinforcing or filling layer which may contain glass fiber materials (claims 1, 5, 7, 18). The fluoropolymer forms a hydrostatically stable, chemically resistant coating on the substrate.

The perfluorocyclobutane containing polymer also contains other materials including metal particles (col 16, I 9-24). They are useful in composites wherein the polymer surrounds, thus forms layers around such materials as fiber glass, particularly fiber glass mats (woven or non-woven) (col 16, I 30-54). Examples 12 and 13 describe the preparation of fluoropolymer coated woven glass fiber mat

(electrical glass).

Therefore, the subject-matter of claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14-16, 18, and 21 do not fulfil the requirements of novelty and inventiveness laid out in Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT.

3. The technical problem of the present application, namely to provide a heat transfer element having improved heat transfer and mechanical properties and resistance to corrosion, has already been solved in the prior art using heat transfer elements comprising fluoropolymers and glass fibers to provide improved heat-transfer properties and resistance to chemical corrosion. Hence, the inventive concept underlying the application is known and obvious from the teachings of the prior art.

Dependent claims 4, 8, 9, 12, 13, 17, 20, and 22 merely represent standard modifications in the technical field which have not been shown in the application to provide any surprising or non-obvious technical advantage.

Hence, an inventive merit under Article 33(3) PCT cannot be recognized.

Paragraph VII:

The claims have been wrongly numbered, i.e., namley from 1-18 and 20-22, claim 19 having been omitted.



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00363

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

- 6. Additional observations, if necessary:
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes:

Claims 4,8,9,12,13,17,20,22

No:

Claims 1-3,6,7,10,11,14-16,18,21

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

No:

Claims 1-22

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes:

Claims 1-22

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted: se separate sheet

ENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference FOR FURTHER see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CTE/PL62889WO | ACTION (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | | | | | | | |
| International application No. | International filing date (day/month/year) | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) | | | | | | |
| PCT/GB 00/00363 | 07/02/2000 | 08/02/1999 | | | | | | |
| Applicant | | | | | | | | |
| IL D. FULLED COATINGS LTD. | ot al | | | | | | | |
| H.B. FULLER COATINGS LTD. | et al. | <u> </u> | | | | | | |
| This International Search Bened has been | n prepared by this International Searching Auth | ority and is transmitted to the applicant | | | | | | |
| according to Article 18. A copy is being tra | | only and is transmitted to the applicant | | | | | | |
| This International Search Report consists | of a total of 3 sheets. | | | | | | | |
| I | a copy of each prior art document cited in this | report. | | | | | | |
| 1 Cools of the cools | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | | | |
| Basis of the report a. With regard to the language, the | international search was carried out on the bas | is of the international application in the | | | | | | |
| | ess otherwise indicated under this item. | | | | | | | |
| the international search w Authority (Rule 23.1(b)). | as carried out on the basis of a translation of th | ne international application furnished to this | | | | | | |
| | | ternational application, the international search | | | | | | |
| was carried out on the basis of the contained in the internatio | nal application in written form. | | | | | | | |
| filed together with the inte | filed together with the international application in computer readable form. | | | | | | | |
| furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. | | | | | | | | |
| | this Authority in computer readble form. sequently furnished written sequence listing do | ses not go beyond the disclosure in the | | | | | | |
| international application as | s filed has been furnished. | | | | | | | |
| the statement that the info furnished | rmation recorded in computer readable form is | identical to the written sequence listing has been | | | | | | |
| 2. Certain claims were four | nd unsearchable (See Box I). | | | | | | | |
| 3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II). | | | | | | | | |
| 4 With regard to the title | | | | | | | | |
| no. | 4. With regard to the title, TX the text is approved as submitted by the applicant. | | | | | | | |
| the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows: | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 5. With regard to the abstract, | | | | | | | | |
| the text is approved as submitted by the applicant. | | | | | | | | |
| the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority. | | | | | | | | |
| . 6. The figure of the drawings to be publi | 6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. | | | | | | | |
| | as suggested by the applicant. X None of the figures. | | | | | | | |
| because the applicant faile | •• | | | | | | | |
| Decause this figure better | because this figure better characterizes the invention. | | | | | | | |